

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1               1. (Currently amended): A computer-implemented method for collecting  
2 data from among a plurality of data sites to be stored at a central site, each data site having an  
3 associated data store, the method comprising:  
4                 providing each data site with a corresponding extraction routine;  
5                 for each data site, processing data contained in its associated data store in  
6 accordance with its corresponding extraction routine to produce first data, the corresponding  
7 extraction routine configured to store the first data in a storage location at the data site if the  
8 processing produces first data;  
9                 collecting second data which is based on first data obtained from those data sites  
10 for which their corresponding extraction routines produced said first data; and, the second data  
11 being based on the first data; and  
12                 loading all of the second data into a database,  
13                 wherein the step of collecting includes communicating the first data to a central  
14 site in accordance with a remote copy operation, receiving at the central site the first data as  
15 mirrored data, and transforming the mirrored data to produce the second data, the second data  
16 being stored at the central site,  
17                 wherein the step of providing a corresponding extraction routine comprises, for  
18 each data site:  
19                 receiving a specification information which is descriptive of data stored in  
20 a data store associated with the data site;  
21                 producing the extraction routine based on the specification information;  
22                 and  
23                 communicating the extraction routine to the data site.

2. (Canceled)

1           3. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1~~claim 2~~ wherein the step of  
2 collecting comprises, at each data site that has first data, performing a data backup procedure on  
3 the first data, wherein the central site is viewed as a backup site.

1           4. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1~~claim 2~~ wherein the step of  
2 communicating the first data includes signaling the central site at time when the remote copy  
3 operation is complete, the step of transforming the mirrored data being initiated in response to  
4 the central site being signaled.

1           5. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of collecting includes:  
2 transforming the first data to produce the second data, the second data being stored at the data  
3 site; communicating the second data to a central site in accordance with a remote copy operation,  
4 and receiving at the central site the second data as mirrored data.

1           6. (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising providing each data  
2 site with a corresponding remote copy program.

1           7. (Original): The method of claim 1 further including providing each data  
2 site with a corresponding transformation routine, and for each data site having first data  
3 processing the first data by executing its corresponding transformation routine to produce the  
4 second data.

1           8. (Canceled)

1           9. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of  
2 providing a corresponding extraction routine comprises, for each data site: A computer-  
3 implemented method for collecting data from among a plurality of data sites to be stored at a  
4 central site, each data site having an associated data store, the method comprising:  
5 providing each data site with a corresponding extraction routine;

6               for each data site, processing data contained in its associated data store in  
7       accordance with its corresponding extraction routine to produce first data, the corresponding  
8       extraction routine configured to store the first data in a storage location at the data site if the  
9       processing produces first data;

10               collecting second data which is based on first data obtained from those data sites  
11       for which their corresponding extraction routines produced said first data, the second data being  
12       based on the first data; and

13               loading all of the second data into a database,  
14               wherein the step of collecting includes communicating the first data to a central  
15       site in accordance with a remote copy operation, receiving at the central site the first data as  
16       mirrored data, and transforming the mirrored data to produce the second data, the second data  
17       being stored at the central site,

18               wherein the step of providing a corresponding extraction routine comprises, for  
19       each data site:

20                receiving a first specification information which is descriptive of data  
21        stored in its associated data store;

22                producing a second specification information based on the first  
23       specification information which is descriptive of the extraction routine;

24                communicating the second specification information to the data site; and

25                producing, at the data site, the extraction routine based on the second  
26       specification information.

1               10. (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the second specification  
2 information is source code.

1               11. (Original): A data collection system comprising a plurality of remote data  
2 sites and a data collection site, the remote data sites and the data collection site configured to  
3 operate according to the method of claim 1.

1           12. (Currently amended): A data collection system comprising:  
2           a central data site comprising at least one host processor;  
3           a host storage system operatively coupled to the at least one host processor;  
4           at least one remote data site comprising at least one remote processor; and  
5           a remote storage system operatively coupled to the at least one remote processor,  
6           the at least one host processor having program generating code configured to:  
7           obtain storage related parameters from the at least one remote data site;  
8           generate first interim volume managing code;  
9           generate second interim volume managing code;  
10          generate a data extraction routine-based on the storage related parameters,  
11          including receiving a specification information based on the storage related parameters  
12          and producing the extraction routine based on the specification information;  
13          generate remote copy control code based on the storage related  
14          parameters; and  
15           transfer the second interim volume managing code, the data extraction  
16          routine, and the remote copy control code to the at least one remote data site,  
17          the at least one host processor further having program manager code configured to  
18          initiate processing of the second interim volume managing code, the data extraction routine, and  
19          the remote copy control code,  
20           the data extraction routine configured to produce extracted data,  
21           the remote copy control code configured to perform a data duplication operation  
22          of the extracted data, wherein the central data site serves as the duplication site for the extracted  
23          data,  
24           the first interim volume managing code configured to allocate a host interim  
25          volume in the host storage system for storing at least some of the extracted data,  
26           the second interim volume managing code configured to allocate a remote interim  
27          volume in the remote storage system for storing the extracted data.

1               13. (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein the data duplication operation  
2 is a remote copy operation.

1               14. (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein the at least some of the  
2 extracted data is copied to the central data site as the result of a data mirroring operation.

1               15. (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein data extraction routine  
2 includes a size calculation component to produce a data size metric indicative of the size of the  
3 extracted data, the data size metric being communicated to the first interim volume managing  
4 code and to the second interim volume managing code, wherein the host interim volume is  
5 allocated based at least on the data size metric and the remote interim volume is allocated based  
6 at least on the data size metric.

1               16. (Original): The system of claim 15 wherein the host interim volume has a  
2 flag associated with the remote data site, the remote copy control code further configured to set  
3 the flag to a first value when performing the backup operation and to set the flag to a second  
4 value when the backup operation has completed.

1               17. (Currently amended): A method for collecting data from among a  
2 plurality of remote data sites comprising:

3               producing extraction routines, each extraction routine corresponding to a remote  
4 data site, each extraction routine configured to process data stored at its corresponding remote  
5 data site, the extraction routine further configured to store any data produced thereby at its  
6 corresponding remote data site;

7               communicating each extraction routine to its corresponding remote data site;

8               initiating execution of each extraction routine to process the data stored at its  
9 corresponding remote data site wherein if extracted data is produced then it is stored at its  
10 corresponding remote data site, each extraction routine being executed at its corresponding  
11 remote data site;

12                   receiving processed data from each remote data site that produced extracted data,  
13   the processed data being based on the extracted data; and  
14                   incorporating the processed data into a collection of information,  
15                   wherein the collection of information is stored at a collection site and the  
16   extraction routines are produced at the collection site,  
17                   wherein the step of producing an extraction routine for its remote data site  
18   comprises:

19                   receiving a specification information which is descriptive of data stored in  
20   a data store associated with the remote data site;  
21                   producing the extraction routine based on the specification information;  
22                   and  
23                   communicating the extraction routine to the remote data site.

1                 18. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the step of incorporating  
2   comprises transforming the processed data to produce transformed data and loading the  
3   transformed data into a database.

1                 19. (Original): The method of claim 17 further including producing  
2   transformation routines, wherein the step of transforming the processed data includes applying  
3   the transformation routines to the processed data.

1                 20. (Original): The method of claim 19 wherein receiving processed data  
2   includes detecting an indication that the processed data from a remote data site has been  
3   communicated therefrom and wherein transforming the processed data is performed in response  
4   to the indication.

21. (Canceled)

1           22. (Original): The method of claim 17 further comprising:  
2           producing transformation routines, each transformation routine corresponding to  
3           one of the remote data sites, the transformation routine further configured to store any data  
4           produced thereby at its corresponding remote data site; and  
5           communicating each transformation routine to its corresponding remote data site,  
6           each transformation routine configured to process the extracted data stored at its  
7           corresponding remote data site to produce transformed data,  
8           the processed data being representative of the transformed data.

1           23. (Original): The method of claim 22 wherein the collection of information  
2           is stored at a collection site and wherein the transformation routines are produced at a collection  
3           site.

1           24. (Original): The method of claim 17 further comprising producing a  
2           remote copy control routine for each of the remote data sites and communicating each remote  
3           copy control routine to its corresponding remote data site.

1           25. (Original): The method of claim 17 further comprising:  
2           creating a storage volume for storing the processed data;  
3           receiving size information from one or more of the remote data sites, the size  
4           information representative of the size of its corresponding extracted data; and  
5           allocating space for the storage volume based on the size information.

1           26. (Original): An ETL (extraction, transformation, loading) tool configured  
2           to perform the method of claim 17.

1           27. (Original): A data collection system comprising:  
2           a data processing component;  
3           a data storage component; and  
4           computer program code configured to execute on the data processing component,  
5       the computer program code configured to perform steps of:  
6                  receiving first information which specify extraction routines, each  
7                  extraction routine corresponding to a remote data site, each extraction routine configured  
8                  to process data stored at its corresponding remote data site, the extraction routine further  
9                  configured to store any data produced thereby at its corresponding remote data site;  
10                 communicating to each of the remote data sites a corresponding second  
11                 information, the second information representative of the extraction routine  
12                 corresponding to the remote data site, whereby an extraction routine is provided at each  
13                 of the remote data sites; and  
14                 initiating execution of each extraction routine to process the data stored at  
15                 its corresponding remote data site wherein if extracted data is produced then it is stored at  
16                 its corresponding remote data site, each extraction routine being executed at its  
17                 corresponding remote data site,  
18                 a portion of the data storage component being configured to receive processed  
19                 data from each remote data site that produced extracted data, the processed data being received  
20                 as mirrored data resulting from a data mirroring operation performed at the remote data sites, the  
21                 processed data being based on the extracted data,  
22                 the computer program code further configured to perform a step of incorporating  
23                 the mirrored data into a database.

1           28. (Original): The system of claim 27 wherein the computer program code  
2       includes an ETL (extraction, transformation, loading) tool, the ETL tool configured to produce a  
3       plurality of extraction routines as the second information.

1           29. (Original): The system of claim 27 wherein the step of incorporating the  
2 mirrored data includes transforming the mirrored data to produce transformed data and loading  
3 the transformed data into the database.

1           30. (Original): The system of claim 27 wherein the computer program code is  
2 further configured to:

3                 produce transformation routines, each transformation routine corresponding to  
4 one of the remote data sites, the transformation routine further configured to store any data  
5 produced thereby at its corresponding remote data site; and

6                 communicate each transformation routine to its corresponding remote data site,  
7                 each transformation routine configured to process the extracted data stored at its  
8 corresponding remote data site to produce transformed data,

9                 the processed data being representative of the transformed data.

1           31. (Previously presented): A method for processing data at a remote site to  
2 produce data suitable for integration at a data collection site comprising:

3                 obtaining an extraction routine at a remote site, the extraction routine suitable for  
4 extracting data from a data store at the remote site, the extraction routine configured to execute  
5 on a data processor at the remote site;

6                 detecting a first signal and in response thereto, performing a data extraction  
7 operation by applying the extraction routine to the data to produce extracted data;

8                 storing a first representation of the extracted data at the remote site; and

9                 communicating the first representation of the extracted data to the data collection  
10 site for subsequent integration by performing a backup operation of the first representation of the  
11 extracted data wherein the data is backed up to the data collection site.

1           32. (Original): The method of claim 31 wherein the first representation of the  
2 extracted data is the extracted data itself, wherein a subsequent transformation operation and a  
3 loading operation are performed at the collection site.

1               33. (Original): The method of claim 31 further comprising determining a size  
2 of the data to be extracted and creating a logical volume having a storage capacity based on the  
3 size of the data to be extracted, wherein the first representation of the extracted data is stored on  
4 the logical volume.

1               34. (Original): The method of claim 33 further comprising determining a size  
2 of the logical volume and communicating the size of the logical volume to the collection site,  
3 prior to the step of performing a backup operation, wherein the collection site can allocate  
4 storage thereat based on the size of the logical volume in order to store the first representation o  
5 of the extracted data.

1               35. (Original): The method of claim 31 further comprising receiving a  
2 transformation routine and applying the transformation routine to the extracted data to produce  
3 transformed data, the first representation comprising the transformed data, wherein the  
4 transformed data is backed up to the collection site.

1               36. (Original): The method of claim 31 wherein the step of obtaining an  
2 extraction routine comprises receiving the extraction routine in executable form.

1               37. (Original): The method of claim 36 wherein the extraction routine is  
2 received from the collection site.

1               38. (Original): The method of claim 31 wherein the step of obtaining an  
2 extraction routine comprises receiving a representation of the extraction routine and generating  
3 an executable form of the extraction routine from the representation.

1               39. (Previously presented): A data storage facility configured to produce data  
2 suitable for integration at a data collection site comprising:  
3               a data processing component;  
4               a data storage component; and  
5               computer program code configured to perform steps of:

6                   obtaining an extraction routine, the extraction routine suitable for  
7                   extracting first data from the data storage component, the extraction routine configured to  
8                   execute on the data processing component;

9                   detecting a first signal and in response thereto, performing a data  
10                  extraction operation by applying the extraction routine to the first data to produce  
11                  extracted data; and

12                  storing a first representation of the extracted data on the data storage  
13                  component,

14                  the data storage component being configured to communicate the first  
15                  representation of the extracted data to the data collection site for subsequent integration by  
16                  performing a backup operation of the first representation of the extracted data wherein the data is  
17                  backed up to the data collection site.

1                  40. (Original): The data storage facility of claim 39 wherein the computer  
2                  program code is further configured to receive a representation of the extraction routine and to  
3                  generate the extraction routine based on the representation, thereby obtaining the extraction  
4                  routine.

1                  41. (Original): The data storage facility of claim 39 wherein the data storage  
2                  component is further configured to perform a backup operation upon detecting an indication, the  
3                  indication being produced at the collection site.

1                  42. (Original): A system for collecting data from among a plurality of data  
2                  sites comprising:

3                   means for receiving first information specifying a data extraction routine, wherein  
4                  a plurality of data extraction routines can be produced, each data extraction routine  
5                  corresponding to a remote data site, each data extraction routine being configured based on data  
6                  contained at its corresponding remote data site;

7           means for communicating second information to each of the remote data sites, the  
8   second information representative of its corresponding data extraction routine, wherein each data  
9   extraction routine is executed at its corresponding remote data site;

10           means for signaling at least one of the data extraction routines to process data at  
11   its corresponding remote data site to produce extracted data, wherein the at least one each of the  
12   data extraction routines is configured to store extracted data in a data store at its corresponding  
13   remote data site;

14           means for receiving extracted data from each of the remote data sites as mirrored  
15   data;

16           means for transforming mirrored data to produce transformed data; and  
17           means for loading transformed data into a data store.

1           43. (Original): The system of claim 42 wherein the second information  
2   constitutes the data extraction routine.

1           44. (Original): The system of claim 42 wherein the second information  
2   comprises a first representation of the data extraction routine, wherein the corresponding remote  
3   data site can produce the data extraction routine based on the first representation.

1           45. (Original): The system of claim 42 further including means for producing  
2   a remote copy control routine for each of the remote data sites and means for communicating the  
3   remote copy control routines to the remote data sites.

1           46. (Previously presented): A data storage facility configured to produce data  
2   suitable for integration at a data collection site comprising:

3           means for obtaining an extraction routine at the remote site, the extraction routine  
4   suitable for extracting data from a data store at the remote site, the extraction routine configured  
5   to execute on a data processor at the remote site;

6           means for detecting a first signal and in response thereto for performing a data  
7   extraction operation by applying the extraction routine to the data to produce extracted data;